

# Pacific Basin Area: EQIP Sign-Up Information

***Sign-Up Period Cutoff Dates: December 15, 2003 and May 17, 2004***

All application material must be received by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) field office or your Farm Service Agency (FSA) representative by the last day of the sign-up period to be considered for program benefits.

## How to Determine if you are Eligible

Please review the "PBA EQIP Fact Sheet" and answer the questions below to help you determine if you are eligible for EQIP financial assistance. Contact your local NRCS field office if you need assistance in determining program eligibility.

- **Is your land currently being used to produce an agricultural commodity or livestock? This includes:**

Cropland, rangeland, grassland, pastureland, private, non-industrial forestland and, other land where livestock or crops are produced

- **Will you have control of your land for the contract period (between 2 to 10 years)? Evidence may include, but is not limited to:**

Deed or other evidence of land ownership or a legal lease.

- **Do you have any of the following resource concerns?**
  - A. Excessive non-point source pollutants, such as nutrients, sediment, or pesticides.
  - B. Groundwater and surface water contamination, or limited ground and surface water resources.
  - C. Unacceptably high rates soil erosion or sedimentation on highly erodible land.
  - D. Problems with exotic weeds and pests.
  - E. Degraded land or declining populations of plants or animals.
  - F. Excessive surface runoff or flooding.
- **Are you willing to install or implement conservation practices to address your resource concerns? Practices include, but are not limited to:**

Structural Practices: cover crop, diversion, fence, grassed waterway, pasture planting, pipeline, waste storage facility, trough, or windbreaks.

Management Practices: grazing management, residue management, or pest management.

- **Do you have an average adjusted gross income of \$2.5 million or less for the preceding 3 years?**

Note: If your adjusted gross income exceeds \$2.5 million, you may answer “yes” if 75% of your income is from farming, ranching or forestry interests.

- **Are you able to finance the cost of a practice until the EQIP cost-share reimbursement payment is authorized?**

Note: Payments are authorized when: (a) the practice is completed and meets NRCS standards & specifications; and (b) documentation of expenses and other supporting documents have been submitted.

## **Are You Eligible?**

If all of the answers to the questions above are "yes", you may be eligible for EQIP financial assistance. Please submit your application material by the last day of the sign-up period and work with your local NRCS field office to rank your project application.

Check out our web site to obtain forms and details: <http://www.gu.nrcs.usda.gov/eqip.htm>

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